109TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

S. 2162

To foster local development by facilitating the delivery of financial assistance to small businesses, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 21, 2005

Ms. Snowe introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

A BILL

To foster local development by facilitating the delivery of financial assistance to small businesses, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; DEFINITION.
- 4 (a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the
- 5 "Local Development Business Loan Program Act of
- 6 2005".
- 7 (b) Definition.—In this Act, the term "Adminis-
- 8 trator" means the Administrator of the Small Business
- 9 Administration.

1 SEC. 2. DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LOAN PROGRAMS.

- 2 (a) TITLE OF PROGRAM.—Title V of the Small Busi-
- 3 ness Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.) is
- 4 amended by adding at the end the following:

5 "SEC. 511. PROGRAM TITLE.

- 6 "The programs authorized by this title shall be
- 7 known as the 'Local Development Business Loan Pro-
- 8 gram'.".
- 9 (b) Existing Materials.—The Administrator may
- 10 use informational materials created, or that were in the
- 11 process of being created, before the date of enactment of
- 12 this Act that do not refer to a program under title V of
- 13 the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C.
- 14 695 et seq.) as the "Local Development Business Loan
- 15 Program".
- 16 (c) New Materials.—Any informational materials
- 17 created by the Administrator on or after the date of enact-
- 18 ment of this Act shall refer to any program under title
- 19 V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15
- 20 U.S.C. 695 et seq.) as the "Local Development Business
- 21 Loan Program".

22 SEC. 3. PROGRAM AUTHORIZATIONS.

- Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631
- 24 note) is amended by adding at the end the following:
- 25 "(f) FISCAL YEAR 2007.—For the program author-
- 26 ized under section 7(a)(13) of this Act and the Local De-

- 1 velopment Business Loan Program under the Small Busi-
- 2 ness Investment Act of 1958, the Administrator is author-
- 3 ized to make \$8,000,000,000 in financings, and there are
- 4 authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator such
- 5 sums as may be necessary to carry out such programs.
- 6 "(g) FISCAL YEAR 2008.—For the program author-
- 7 ized under section 7(a)(13) of this Act and the Local De-
- 8 velopment Business Loan Program under the Small Busi-
- 9 ness Investment Act of 1958, the Administrator is author-
- 10 ized to make \$8,500,000,000 in financings, and there are
- 11 authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator such
- 12 sums as may be necessary to carry out such programs.".
- 13 SEC. 4. LOAN LIQUIDATIONS.
- 14 Section 510 of the Small Business Investment Act
- 15 of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 697g) is amended—
- 16 (1) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-
- section (g); and
- 18 (2) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-
- lowing:
- 20 "(e) Participation.—
- 21 "(1) IN GENERAL.—Any qualified State or local
- development company which elects not to apply for
- authority to foreclose and liquidate defaulted loans
- under this section, or which the Administrator deter-
- 25 mines to be ineligible for such authority, shall con-

tract with a qualified third-party to perform foreclosure and liquidation of defaulted loans in its portfolio. The contract shall be contingent upon approval by the Administrator with respect to the qualifications of the contractor and the terms and conditions of liquidation activities.

"(2) COMMENCEMENT.—The provisions of this subsection shall not require any development company to liquidate defaulted loans until the Administrator has adopted and implemented a program to compensate and reimburse development companies, as provided under subsection (f).

"(f) Compensation and Reimbursement.—

- "(1) REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES.—The Administrator shall reimburse each qualified State or local development company for all expenses paid by such company as part of the foreclosure and liquidation activities, if the expenses—
 - "(A) were approved in advance by the Administrator, either specifically or generally; or
 - "(B) were incurred by the development company on an emergency basis without prior approval from the Administrator, if the Administrator determines that the expenses were reasonable and appropriate.

1 "(2) Compensation for results.—The Ad-2 ministrator shall develop a schedule to compensate 3 and provide an incentive to qualified State or local development companies that foreclose and liquidate 5 defaulted loans. The schedule shall be based on a 6 percentage of the net amount recovered, but shall 7 not exceed a maximum amount. The schedule shall 8 not apply to any foreclosure which is conducted pur-9 suant to a contract between a development company 10 and a qualified third party to perform the fore-11 closure and liquidation.". 12 SEC. 5. ADDITIONAL EQUITY INJECTIONS. 13 Section 502(3)(B)(ii) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 696(3)(B)(ii)) is amended 14 15 to read as follows: "(ii) 16 Funding FROM INSTITU-17 TIONS.—If a small business concern— "(I) provides the minimum con-18 19 tribution required under subpara-20 graph (C), not less than 50 percent of 21 the total cost of any project financed 22 under clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of sub-

paragraph (C) shall come from the in-

stitutions described in subclauses (I),

(II), and (III) of clause (i); and

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1 "(II) provides more than the 2 minimum contribution required under subparagraph (C), any excess con-3 tribution may be used to reduce the amount required from the institutions 6 described in subclauses (I), (II), and (III) of clause (i), except that the 7 8 amount from such institutions may 9 not be reduced to an amount that is 10 less than the amount of the loan made 11 by the Administrator.".

12 SEC. 6. BUSINESSES IN LOW-INCOME AREAS.

Section 501(d)(3)(A) of the Small Business Invest-14 ment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695(d)(3)(A)) is amended 15 by inserting after "business district revitalization," the 16 following: "or expansion of businesses in low-income com-17 munities which would be eligible for a new markets tax 18 credit pursuant to section 45D(a) of the Internal Revenue 19 Code of 1986, or implementing regulations issued there-20 under,".

21 SEC. 7. COMBINATIONS OF CERTAIN GOALS.

Section 501(e) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following: 1 "(7) A small business concern that is uncondi-2 tionally owned by more than 1 individual, or a cor-3 poration, the stock of which is owned by more than 4 1 individual, shall be deemed to have achieved a 5 public policy goal required under subsection (d)(3) if 6 a combined ownership share of not less than 51 per-7 cent is held by individuals who are in 1 of the 8 groups described in subparagraph (C) or (E) of sub-9 section (d)(3).".

10 SEC. 8. MAXIMUM 504 AND 7(a) LOAN ELIGIBILITY.

Section 502(2) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 696(2)) is amended by adding at the and the following:

"(C) Combination financing.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, financing under this title may be provided to a borrower in the maximum amount provided in this subsection, and a loan guarantee under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act may be provided to the same borrower in the maximum amount provided in section 7(a)(3)(A) of such Act, to the extent that the borrower otherwise qualifies for such assistance."

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1 SEC. 9. REFINANCING.

2	Section 502 of the Small Business Investment Act
3	of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 696) is amended by adding at the end
4	the following:
5	"(7) Permissible debt refinancing.—
6	"(A) IN GENERAL.—Any financing ap-
7	proved under this title may include a limited
8	amount of debt refinancing.
9	"(B) Expansions.—If the project involves
10	expansion of a small business concern which
11	has existing indebtedness collateralized by fixed
12	assets, any amount of existing indebtedness
13	that does not exceed ½ of the project cost of
14	the expansion may be refinanced and added to
15	the expansion cost, providing that—
16	"(i) the proceeds of the indebtedness
17	were used to acquire land, including a
18	building situated thereon, to construct a
19	building thereon, or to purchase equip-
20	ment;
21	"(ii) the borrower has been current on
22	all payments due on the existing debt for
23	at least the preceding year; and
24	"(iii) the financing under section 504
25	will provide better terms or rate of interest

- than exists on the debt at the time of refinancing.".
- 3 SEC. 10. FEES.
- 4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 503(d) of the Small Busi-
- 5 ness Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 697(d)) is amend-
- 6 ed—
- 7 (1) by striking paragraph (2);
- 8 (2) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-
- 9 graph (2); and
- 10 (3) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated, by
- striking "0.125 percent" and inserting "0.185 per-
- cent".
- 13 (b) Effective Date.—The amendments made by
- 14 subsection (a) shall take effect and apply to loans under
- 15 section 503(d) of the Small Business Investment Act of
- 16 1958 (15 U.S.C. 697(d)) approved on or after 30 days
- 17 after the date of enactment of this Act.
- 18 SEC. 11. TECHNICAL CORRECTION.
- 19 Section 501(e)(2) of the Small Business Investment
- 20 Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695(e)(2)) is amended by striking
- 21 "outstanding".
- 22 SEC. 12. SBIA DEFINITIONS.
- 23 Section 103 of the Small Business Investment Act
- 24 of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 662) is amended—

1	(1) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the
2	following:
3	"(6) the term 'development company' means an
4	entity incorporated under State law with the author-
5	ity to promote and assist the growth and develop-
6	ment of small business concerns in the areas in
7	which it is authorized to operate by the Adminis-
8	trator;";
9	(2) in paragraph (16), by striking "and" at the
10	end;
11	(3) in paragraph (17), by striking the period at
12	the end and inserting "; and; and
13	(4) by adding at the end the following:
14	"(18) the term 'certified development company'
15	means a development company that the Adminis-
16	trator has certified meets the criteria of section
17	506.".
18	SEC. 13. REPEAL OF SUNSET ON RESERVE REQUIREMENTS
19	FOR PREMIER CERTIFIED LENDERS.
20	Section 508(c)(6)(B) of the Small Business Invest-
21	ment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 697e(c)(6)(B)) is amend-
22	ed—
23	(1) in the heading, by striking "Temporary
24	REDUCTION" and inserting "REDUCTION"; and

1	(2) by striking "Notwithstanding subparagraph
2	(A), during the 2-year period beginning on the date
3	that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this
4	subparagraph, the" and inserting "The".
5	SEC. 14. ELIGIBILITY OF DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES TO BE
6	DESIGNATED AS CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT
7	COMPANIES AND AUTHORITY TO ISSUE DE-
8	BENTURES; AND PROVIDING AN AREA OF
9	OPERATIONAL AUTHORITY, FUNDING RE-
10	STRICTIONS, AND ETHICAL REQUIREMENTS.
11	Section 506 of the Small Business Investment Act
12	of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 697c) is amended—
13	(1) in the heading, by striking "RESTRIC-
14	TIONS ON DEVELOPMENT COMPANY ASSIST-
15	ANCE" and inserting "CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT
16	COMPANIES"; and
17	(2) by inserting before "Notwithstanding any
18	other provision of law" the following:
19	"(a) Authority to Issue Debentures.—A devel-
20	opment company may issue debentures under this title if
21	the Administrator certifies that the company meets the
22	following criteria:
23	"(1) Size.—
24	"(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
25	subparagraph (B), the development company

shall be a small business concern with fewer than 500 employees, and shall not be under the control of any entity that does not meet the size standards established by the Administrator for a small business concern.

- "(B) EXCEPTION.—Any development company that was certified by the Administrator before December 31, 2005, may continue to issue debentures under this title.
- "(2) Purpose.—A primary purpose of the development company shall be to benefit the community by fostering economic development to create and preserve jobs and stimulate private investment.
- "(3) Primary function.—A primary function of the development company shall be to accomplish its purpose by providing long term financing to small business concerns under the Local Development Business Loan Program. The development company may also provide or support other local economic development activities to assist the community.

"(4) Nonprofit status.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the development company shall be a nonprofit corporation.

1	"(B) Exception.—A development com-
2	pany certified by the Administrator before Jan-
3	uary 1, 1987, may continue to issue debentures
4	under this title and retain its status as a for-
5	profit enterprise.
6	"(5) Good standing.—The development com-
7	pany—
8	"(A) shall be in good standing in the State
9	in which such company is incorporated and in
10	any other State in which it conducts business;
11	and
12	"(B) shall be in compliance with all laws,
13	including taxation requirements, in the State in
14	which such company is incorporated and in any
15	other State in which it conducts business.
16	"(6) Membership of Development Com-
17	PANY.—There shall be—
18	"(A) not fewer than 25 members of the de-
19	velopment company (or owners or stockholders,
20	if the corporation is a for-profit entity) none of
21	whom may own or control more than 10 percent
22	of the voting membership of the company; and
23	"(B) at least 1 member of the development
24	company (none of whom is in a position to con-

1	trol the development company) from each of the
2	following:
3	"(i) Government organizations that
4	are responsible for economic development.
5	"(ii) Financial institutions that pro-
6	vide commercial long term fixed asset fi-
7	nancing.
8	"(iii) Community organizations that
9	are dedicated to economic development.
10	"(iv) Businesses.
11	"(7) Board of directors.—
12	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The development com-
13	pany shall have a board of directors.
14	"(B) Members of Board.—Each member
15	of the board of directors shall be—
16	"(i) a member of the development
17	company; and
18	"(ii) elected by a majority of the
19	members of the development company.
20	"(C) Representation of organiza-
21	TIONS AND INSTITUTIONS.—
22	"(i) In general.—There shall be at
23	least 1 member of the board of directors
24	from not fewer than 3 of the 4 organiza-
25	tions and institutions described in para-

1	graph (6)(B), none of whom is in a posi-
2	tion to control the development company.
3	"(ii) Maximum percentage.—Not
4	more than 50 percent of the members of
5	the board of directors shall be from any 1
6	of the organizations and institutions de-
7	scribed in paragraph (6)(B).
8	"(D) Meetings.—The board of directors
9	of the development company shall meet on a
10	regular basis to make policy decisions for such
11	company.
12	"(8) Professional management and
13	STAFF.—
14	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The development com-
15	pany shall have full-time professional manage-
16	ment, including a chief executive officer to man-
17	age daily operations and a full-time professional
18	staff qualified to market the Local Development
19	Business Loan Program and handle all aspects
20	of loan approval and servicing, including liq-
21	uidation, if appropriate.
22	"(B) Independent management and
23	OPERATION.—Except as provided in paragraph
24	(9), the development company shall be inde-
25	pendently managed and operated to pursue the

1	economic development purpose of the company
2	and shall employ directly the chief executive of-
3	ficer.
4	"(9) Management and operation excep-
5	TIONS.—
6	"(A) AFFILIATION.—A development com-
7	pany may be an affiliate of another local non-
8	profit service corporation (other than a develop-
9	ment company), a purpose of which is to sup-
10	port economic development in the area in which
11	the development company operates.
12	"(B) Staffing.—A development company
13	may satisfy the requirement for full-time pro-
14	fessional staff under paragraph (8)(A) by con-
15	tracting for the required staffing with—
16	"(i) a local nonprofit service corpora-
17	tion;
18	"(ii) a nonprofit affiliate of a local
19	nonprofit service corporation;
20	"(iii) an entity wholly or partially op-
21	erated by a governmental agency; or
22	"(iv) another entity approved by the
23	Administration.
24	"(C) Directors.—A development com-
25	pany and a local nonprofit service corporation

1	with which it is affiliated may have in common
2	some, but not all, members of their respective
3	board of directors.
4	"(D) Rural areas.—A development com-
5	pany in a rural area may satisfy the require-
6	ments of a full-time professional staff and pro-
7	fessional management ability under paragraph
8	(8)(A) by contracting for such services with an-
9	other certified development company that—
10	"(i) has such staff and management
11	ability; and
12	"(ii) is located in the same State as
13	the development company or in a State
14	that is contiguous to the State in which
15	the development company is located.
16	"(E) Previously certified.—A develop-
17	ment company that, on or before December 31,
18	2005, was certified by the Administrator and
19	had contracted with a for-profit company to
20	provide staffing and management services, may
21	continue to do so.
22	"(b) USE OF EXCESS FUNDS.—Any funds generated
23	by a certified development company from making loans
24	under section 503 or 504 that remain unexpended after
25	payment of staff, operating, and overhead expenses shall

1	be retained by the certified development company as a re-
2	serve for—
3	"(1) future operations;
4	"(2) expanding the area in which the certified
5	development company operates through the methods
6	authorized by this Act; or
7	"(3) investment in other local economic develop-
8	ment activity in the State from which such funds
9	were generated.
10	"(c) ETHICAL REQUIREMENTS.—
11	"(1) In General.—A certified development
12	company and the officers, employees, and other staff
13	of the company shall at all times act ethically and
14	avoid activities which constitute a conflict of interest
15	or appear to constitute a conflict of interest.
16	"(2) Prohibited conflict in project
17	LOANS.—
18	"(A) In general.—No certified develop-
19	ment company may—
20	"(i) recommend or approve a guar-
21	antee of a debenture by the Administrator
22	under the Local Business Development
23	Loan Program that is collateralized by a
24	second lien position on the property being
25	constructed or acquired: and

1	"(ii) provide, or be affiliated with a
2	corporation or other entity which provides,
3	financing collateralized by a first lien on
4	the same property.
5	"(B) Exception.—During the 2-year pe-
6	riod beginning on the date of enactment of this
7	subsection, a certified development company
8	that was participating as a first mortgage lend-
9	er for the Local Business Development Loan
10	Program in either of fiscal years 2004 or 2005
11	may continue to do so.
12	"(3) Other economic development activi-
13	TIES.—It shall not be a conflict of interest for a cer-
14	tified development company to operate multiple pro-
15	grams to assist small business concerns as part of
16	carrying out its economic development purpose.
17	"(d) Multistate Operations.—
18	"(1) Authorization.—Notwithstanding any
19	other provision of law, the Administrator shall per-
20	mit a certified development company to make loans
21	in any State that is contiguous to the State of incor-
22	poration of that certified development company, only
23	if such company—
24	"(A) is—

1	"(i) an accredited lender under section
2	507; or
3	"(ii) a premier certified lender under
4	section 508;
5	"(B) has a membership that contains not
6	fewer than 25 members from each State in
7	which the company makes loans;
8	"(C) has a board of directors that contains
9	not fewer than 1 member from each State in
10	which the company makes loans; and
11	"(D) maintains not fewer than 1 loan com-
12	mittee, which shall have not fewer than 1 mem-
13	ber from each State in which the company
14	makes loans; and
15	"(E) submits to the Administrator, in writ-
16	ing—
17	"(i) a notice of the intention of the
18	company to make loans in multiple States;
19	"(ii) the names of the States in which
20	the company intends to make loans;
21	"(iii) a detailed statement of how the
22	company will comply with this paragraph,
23	including a list of the members described
24	in subparagraph (B).

- "(2) Review.—The Administrator shall verify whether a certified development company satisfies the requirements of paragraph (1) on an expedited basis and, not later than 30 days after the date on which the Administrator receives the statement de-scribed in paragraph (1)(E)(iii), the Administrator shall determine whether such company satisfies such criteria and provide notice to such company.
 - "(3) Loan committee Participation.—For any loan made by a company described in paragraph (1), not fewer than 1 member of the loan committee from the State in which the loan is to be made shall participate in the review of such loan.
 - "(4) AGGREGATE ACCOUNTING.—A company described in paragraph (1) may maintain an aggregate accounting of all revenue and expenses of the company for purposes of this title.
 - "(5) DIRECTORS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person may serve on the board of directors, but not as an officer, of more than 1 certified development company if none of the certified development companies on which the person serves as a member of the board of directors are located or operate in the same area.

1	"(6) Local Job Creation requirements.—
2	Any certified development company making loans in
3	multiple States shall satisfy any applicable job cre-
4	ation or retention requirements separately for each
5	such State. Such a company shall not count jobs
6	created or retained in 1 State towards any applica-
7	ble job creation or retention requirement in another
8	State.
9	"(7) Contiguous states.—For purposes of
10	this subsection, the States of Alaska and Hawaii
11	shall be deemed to be contiguous to any State abut-
12	ting the Pacific ocean.
13	"(e) Restrictions on Development Company
14	Assistance.—".
15	SEC. 15. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.
16	Section 503 of the Small Business Investment Act
17	of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 697) is amended—
18	(1) in subsection $(a)(1)$, by striking "qualified
19	State or local development company" and inserting
20	"certified development company"; and
21	(2) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the
22	following:
23	"(e) Section 7(a) Loans.—Notwithstanding any
24	other provision of law, a certified development company
25	is authorized to prepare applications for deferred partici-

- 1 pation loans under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act,
- 2 to service such loans, and to charge a reasonable fee for
- 3 servicing such loans.".
- 4 SEC. 16. CLOSING COSTS.
- 5 Section 503(b) of the Small Business Investment Act
- 6 of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 697(b)) is amended by striking para-
- 7 graph (4) and inserting the following:
- 8 "(4) the aggregate amount of such debenture
- 9 does not exceed the amount of the loans to be made
- from the proceeds of such debenture plus, at the
- election of the borrower, other amounts attributable
- to the administrative and closing costs of such loans,
- except for the attorney fees of the borrower;".
- 14 SEC. 17. DEFINITION OF RURAL.
- 15 Section 501 of the Small Business Investment Act
- 16 of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695) is amended by adding at the end
- 17 the following:
- 18 "(f) As used in this title, the term 'rural' shall include
- 19 any area that is not—
- 20 "(1) a city or town that has a population great-
- 21 er than 50,000 inhabitants; or
- 22 "(2) the urbanized area contiguous and adja-
- cent to a city or town described in paragraph (1).".

1 SEC. 18. REGULATIONS AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

2	(a) In General.—Except as provided in subsection
3	(b), the Administrator shall—
4	(1) publish proposed rules to implement this
5	Act and the amendments made by this Act not later
6	than 120 days after the date of enactment of this
7	Act; and
8	(2) publish such rules in final form not later
9	than 120 days after the date of publication under
10	paragraph (1).
11	(b) Multistate Operations.—As soon as is prac-
12	ticable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Admin-
13	istrator shall promulgate regulations to implement section
14	506(d) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as
15	added by section 14 of this Act. Such regulations shall
16	become effective not later than 120 days after the date
17	of enactment of this Act.
18	(c) Effective Date.—
19	(1) In general.—Except as provided in para-
20	graph (2) and section 10(b), this Act and the
21	amendments made by this Act shall become effective
22	240 days after the date of enactment of this Act, re-
23	gardless of whether the Administrator has promul-
24	gated the regulations required under subsection (a).
25	(2) Multistate operations.—Section 506(d)
26	of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as

added by section 14 of this Act, shall become effective 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, regardless of whether the Administrator has promulgated the regulations required under subsection (b).

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